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**NOV - 8 2005**

**Technology Center 2100**

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In re Application of: KANO  
Application No. 10/812,537  
Filed: March 29, 2004  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
MULTISTAGE VOLUME LOCKING

DECISION ON PETITION  
TO MAKE SPECIAL  
(ACCELERATED EXAMINATION)  
UNDER MPEP §708.02 (VIII)

This is a response to the petition filed 08 September 2005, under 37 CFR §1.102(d) and MPEP §708.02 (VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

The Petition is **GRANTED**.


MPEP §708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) states in relevant part:

A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (a) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in **37 CFR 1.17(h)**;
- (b) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, or if the Office determines that all the claims presented are not obviously directed to a single invention, will make an election without traverse as a prerequisite to the grant of special status;
- (c) Submits a statement(s) that a pre-examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. The pre-examination search must be directed to the invention as claimed in the application for which special status is requested. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;
- (d) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and
- (e) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

Applicant's submission meets all the criteria set out above. Accordingly, the petition is **GRANTED**. However, it is suggested that if the identical statement is being made to distinguish each reference from an independent claim, as in the instant petition, then the statement should simply be made once in the petition. (E.g., "Regarding independent claim 1, none of the references disclose . . .")

The application file is being forwarded to the Examiner of Record for accelerated examination according to the procedures set forth in MPEP § 708.02, Section VIII.



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